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Application Serial No. 10/031,105

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

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United States Patent and Trademark Office

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Unofficial Proposed Amendment

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/031,105
Applicant : Jussila et al.
Filed : April 8, 2002
Title : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING THE
MOVEMENTS OF CONTAINER HANDLING DEVICE

TC/A.U. : 3652
Examiner : Paul T. Chin

Docket No. : 513-4 PCT/US
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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

UNOFFICIAL PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 7, 2004, a reply to which is due August 7, 2004, with a one (1) month extension of time, please amend the application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, as follows:

1. A system for controlling the telescopic movements of the telescopic beams in a the spreader (1) and the locking movements of the at least one twistlock twistlock (6) in the telescopic beams, the spreader including two telescopic beams (3) moving inside a the spreader frame (2), characterized in that:

~~-for stopping the telescopic movement of the telescopic beams (3) at a desired place in relation to the frame;~~ the telescopic beams (3) and the frame (2) of the spreader in the system have at least one locking member members (8) for stopping the telescopic movement of the telescopic beams (3) at a desired place in relation to the frame;

~~-the system comprises a joint multi-rope lever system (4) for performing the telescopic movement of the telescopic beams (3) and is connected to said at least one~~

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twistlock (6) to place them in a locked or unlocked position and the locking movements of the twistlock (6);

~~the system includes~~ at least one actuator (7) operating the multi-rope lever system;
and

~~the system includes~~ a control system (9) for supervising and controlling the operations of the actuator and the lever system.

2. The Control system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of ~~characterized in that~~ rope forces of different sizes have to be generated to the multi-rope lever system for performing the telescopic movements of the telescopic beams (3) and the different locking movements (4) of the twistlocks (6).

3. The Control system according to claim 2, characterized in that:

a first rope force has to be generated to the lever system, as the telescopic beams (3) perform the telescopic movement;

a second rope force, is generated to locate at least one ~~as the~~ locking points (81) of the telescopic beams (3) to move to the place of a ~~the~~ locking unit ~~units~~ (82) of the frame (2); and

a third rope force is generated to actuate ~~as~~ the twistlocks (6) of the telescopic beams perform the locking movements, and that the first, second and third rope force differ clearly from each other.

4. The Control system according to claim 1 ~~one of the claims 1-3,~~ characterized in that the locking members (8) include a ~~the~~ locking point (81), comprising a drive ramp (812) and a form-locking groove (811), and that the a locking part parts (82) include ~~including~~ a locking roller (822) fitting into the form-locking groove and a locking spring (823) locking the locking roller in said form-locking groove the compression force of the locking spring being adjustable, ~~for example~~ with a magnet (821).

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5. ~~The Control~~ system according to claim 1 ~~one of the claims 1-4~~, characterized in that the multi-rope lever system (4) is common to both the telescopic beams (3; 3a, 3b) of the spreader, and that different rope forces may be generated to the multi-rope lever system with one actuator (7).

6. ~~The Control~~ system according to claim 5, characterized in that the external force directed to the telescopic beams (3) is partly neutralized by the elasticity of the multi-rope lever system (4) and partly by the interaction between the locking point (81) of the telescopic beams and the locking unit (82) of the frame.

7. ~~The Control~~ system according to claim 1 ~~one of the claims 1-6~~, characterized in that the telescopic beams (3) operate as counter weights for each other with the help of the multi-rope lever system (4) and the support rollers (51), as the first telescopic beam is at a different height from the second telescopic beam.

PROPOSED AMENDED ABSTRACT

The invention relates to the system and method for controlling the telescopic movements of the two telescopic beams moving inside a ~~in the~~ spreader frame, and the locking movements of the twistlocks in the telescopic beams, ~~the spreader including two telescopic beams (3) moving inside the spreader frame (2). For stopping~~ The telescopic movement of the telescopic beams (3) are held in position at a desired place in relation to the frame, ~~the telescopic beams (3) and frame (2) of the spreader in the system are provided with locking members (8). The system has~~ comprises a joint multi-rope lever system (4) for performing the telescopic movement of the telescopic beams (3) and the locking movements of the twistlocks (6). The system has an ~~at least one~~ actuator (7) operating the multi-rope lever system. The system also includes a ~~comprises the~~ control system (9) supervising and

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controlling the ~~operations of the~~ actuator and the lever system. ~~The invention also relates to the method for controlling the telescopic movements of the telescopic beams in the spreader and the locking movements of the twistlocks in the telescopic beams.~~

Respectfully submitted,

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